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1983 UNITED NATIONS PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 1st MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 8 November 1983, at 10 a.m.

Temporary President: Mr. PEREZ DE CUELLAR (Secretary-General of the United Nations)

President: Mr. OM PRADHAN (Bhutan)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT said that, at a time of mounting political tension and economic difficulties, the Pledging Conference for Development Activities, in which more than 150 countries were participating, was a hopeful sign which reaffirmed the purpose of the Charter to use international machinery for the promotion of economic and social development. Because of the importance of operational activities in sustaining the development process, the Conference had been successful in attracting financial support from all quarters of the world. Although developing countries were primarily responsible for their own advancement, external support was often decisive. It could be said that development was currently at a standstill and that its stagnation not only had caused critical problems in developing countries but had had a detrimental effect on the developed world as well.

2. As had been shown by the practical results of the 1982 Conference, operational activities were an essential support for training human resources, strengthening institutions, providing basic services to disadvantaged groups and fostering self-reliant development. In view of the present scarcity of resources for investment, increased output and productivity could best be brought about by more efficient use of existing capital and a concentration of activities in the least developed countries.

3. However, there was a growing gap between the needs of developing countries for operational activities and the resources available to meet them. In 1982 there had been scarcely any growth in contributions, and organizations also had often had to face losses because of exchange-rate adjustments, which in turn had led to a deterioration of the economic situation, especially in the least developed countries. In view of that shortage of resources, it was worth considering that the annual financial requirements of the Pledging Conference were equivalent to 15 hours' worth of current world-wide expenditure on armaments.

4. Despite the difficult economic circumstances in the donor countries, all those who were in a position to do so should demonstrate by their generosity that they supported the goals of development and the United Nations. Countries unable to announce contributions during the present Conference should do so as early as their legislative procedures would permit. Prompt and effective payment were essential today.

5. The Second Committee would shortly conduct a comprehensive policy review of operational activities, on the basis of a report prepared by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation. Undoubtedly the General Assembly would try to keep encouraging those operational activities in support of the developing countries.

6. Of the many funds and programmes which, through the Conference, were offering a large number of specialized services to the developing countries, the corner-stone was UNDP, with its 114 offices for development. With a multisectoral

(The Temporary President)

approach and on the basis of the experience of all the organizations of the system, it was trying to resolve the problems of development in the medium term. Changes in exchange rates over the past few years had resulted in a severe erosion of the value of those pledges in convertible terms, and although supplementary contributions had been mobilized, they had fallen short of the amount necessary, so that UNDP had been forced to curtail its activities. An increase in contributions of at least 7.5 per cent in nominal terms would be needed to enable the Programme to maintain its current level of activities.

7. The times were especially perilous for children: each day 40,000 children died from largely preventable causes, and most of those who survived lived out of reach of basic services, such as health care or drinking water. UNICEF was concentrating special efforts on the dissemination of relatively simple, cost-effective measures which, if applied as integral parts of primary health-care and basic-services programmes, would bring nearer the possibility of a revolution in child health care.

8. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) had made great strides since it had become operational 14 years earlier, and a growing number of Governments were adopting explicit policies to deal with their population problems. At the Mexico City International Conference on Population to be held in 1984, those problems would be studied, but there still remained much to be done to help the developing countries in that area. During the past four years, the level of voluntary contributions of UNFPA had not reached the modest objectives adopted by consensus in the Governing Council.

9. There were three funds which sought to respond to the particular needs of land-locked developing countries: the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, which provided supplementary technical assistance; the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), which also played an important role under the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and which could currently make effective use of greater contributions, and the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, which was helping those countries to mitigate the economic effects of their adverse geographical location, although the contributions pledged so far were inadequate to fulfil its objectives.

10. The United Nations Industrial Development Fund (UNIDF) was helping the developing countries in their process of industrialization, but its resources had remained well below the desirable funding level of $US 50 million established by the General Assembly.

11. The Trust Fund for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations financed the continuously growing programme of technical co-operation aimed at strengthening the capability of host countries in dealing with matters related to transnational corporations.

(The Temporary President)

12. Two programmes administered by UNDP provided modest assistance to help developing countries exploit their energy and other natural resources: the Energy Account, working in close collaboration with the World Bank, and the Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, which had a good record of achievement after only a few years of operation.

13. The Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, also administered by UNDP, provided a complementary mechanism to existing funds to help countries strengthen their indigenous capacities in science and technology. Negotiations on the establishment of the long-term institutional and financial arrangements for the Financing System were continuing. It was to be hoped that they would be brought to a successful conclusion at the current session of the General Assembly.

14. The Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities should be the subject of special attention at the Conference, in the light of the disastrous effects of the current drought in many parts of Africa. The Fund's resources were being used effectively both for programme and project financing and as a catalyst to promote complementary funding of drought relief in eight countries of the Sahel and 11 neighbouring countries. Four years earlier, a Special Account had been established to finance the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, and the General Assembly and the Governing Council of UNEP had requested additional contributions for that Account. The resources available in it were still below the necessary level.

15. The year 1983 marked the end of the first phase of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, launched in 1978. In the second phase, particular attention would be paid to the maintenance of existing assets and the training of manpower for transportation and communications services. The United Nations Trust Fund for African Development Activities had been established in 1976 to facilitate the implementation of high-priority projects within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action.

16. There was also the Trust Fund for the Economic Commission for Western Asia Regional Activities, established in 1976, which financed studies and advisory services in the countries that were members of the Commission.

17. The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) had played an increasingly important role in the developing countries; in 1984, in co-operation with organizations in Europe and North America, UNV would launch a programme to repatriate nationals trained abroad for voluntary service in their own countries. The Administrator estimated that the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers required at least $US 2 million a year to finance the cost of volunteers from developing countries.

18. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women had impressively deployed its limited resources to improve the lives and conditions of disadvantaged women throughout the developing world. The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, which was currently fully operational at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, aimed to promote the full integration of women

(The Temporary President)

into development. The United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence sought to help developing countries forestall delinquency and promote effective systems of criminal justice.

19. The resources of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation were used to assist developing countries in improving the living conditions of the poorest segments of the population in both urban and rural settlements. There remained, however, a substantial gap between available resources and the amount required to implement the work programme of the Commission on Human Settlements.

20. Further preventive measures were needed to counteract the alarming increase in drug abuse, yet the limited resources available stood in sharp contrast to the enormous illicit gains of drug traffickers, and special consideration must therefore be given to those problems through the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control.

21. Lastly, there was the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, which was in the process of revitalizing its training and research programmes, especially in the field of economic and social development. The new Executive Director of the Institute had launched a fund-raising campaign to attain the $US 3 million target for the 1984 budget. As UNITAR had now been included in the Pledging Conference for the first time, it was to be hoped that Member States would demonstrate their interest in it through their pledges.

22. The results of the Pledging Conference could be decisive in renewing the vitality of operational activities, which were central to the work of the United Nations and to the advancement of peoples. A generous response from the international community was needed more than ever before, and he was confident that the Governments of Member States would reaffirm by their actions their commitment to multilateral co-operation for development and recognize the essential role played in that endeavour by all the United Nations funds and programmes.

23. Before turning to the election of the President of the Pledging Conference, he reminded the participants that the Conference was governed by the rules of procedure for United Nations Pledging Conferences, contained in document A/33/580, and that the agenda of the Conference appeared in rule 9 of the rules of procedure.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President

24. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT said it was his understanding that informal consultations had been held and that there was general agreement that Mr. Om Pradhan (Bhutan) should be nominated for the post of President of the Conference.

25. Mr. Om Pradhan (Bhutan) was elected President by acclamation.

26. Mr. Om Pradhan (Bhutan) took the Chair.

27. The PRESIDENT expressed appreciation for his election and joined the Secretary-General in urging that pledges for development activities should, in real terms, be maintained at current levels or increased.

Vice-Presidents

28. The PRESIDENT said it was his understanding that there was general agreement to nominate for the posts of Vice-President Mr. Esaa (Nigeria), Mr. Kulawiec (Czechoslovakia) and Mr. Zucconi (Italy).

29. Mr. Esaa (Nigeria), Mr. Kulawiec (Czechoslovakia) and Mr. Zucconi (Italy) were elected Vice-Presidents by acclamation.

30. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the note by the Secretariat (A/CONF.122/1), which informed the Conference that the General Assembly, in its resolution 35/81, had requested the Secretary-General to entrust to the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation the annual submission to the General Assembly of information concerning operational activities for development, which should also be made available to the Pledging Conference. The report of the Director-General (A/38/258/Add.1) contained information concerning previous and current contributions from Governments and other sources for the various programmes of the Pledging Conference. He also pointed out that the Final Act of the Conference would be signed by the participants when all pledges had been made and that the signatures merely indicated participation in the Conference and did not constitute a confirmation of the pledges.

STATEMENTS REGARDING PLEDGES (A/CONF.122/1; A/38/258/Add.1)

31. The representative of AFGHANISTAN deplored the fact that voluntary contributions to the United Nations funds and programmes had declined sharply in the past two years and the existence of a gap between the needs of the recipient countries and the resources available, and observed that the current volume of contributions did not reflect the real capacity of countries to pay. He announced that his country would contribute the following amounts for 1984: $US 33,000 for UNDP; $US 30,000 for UNICEF; $US 2,000 for UNCDF; $US 2,000 for UNFPA; $US 1,500 for UNIDO, and $US 5,000 for the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries. Afghanistan also contributed an annual 9,500,000 afghanis towards local expenses for the UNDP field office and 396,000 afghanis for the rental expenses of the UNICEF office at Kabul. In addition, Afghanistan announced the following contributions to United Nations organizations and programmes: $US 20,012 for UNESCO; $US 21,625 for WHO; $US 17,089 for FAO; $US 3,000 for WFP; and $US 3,000 for the Asian and Pacific Development Centre. Afghanistan would also contribute in 1984 to the following United Nations funds and institutes: $US 1,000 to UNITAR; $US 500 to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW); $US 500 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; and $US 500 to the United Nations Institute for Namibia.

32. The representative of ALBANIA said that in 1984 his Government would make a voluntary contribution to UNDP of 40,000 new leks, which was 14.3 per cent higher than its contribution in 1983.

33. The representative of ALGERIA said that his country would make the following contributions in 1984: $US 834,000 for UNDP; $US142,000 for UNICEF; $US 40,000 for UNIDF; $US 5,000 for UNITAR; $US 37,000 for UNCDF; $US 8,500 for Habitat (under the pledged multi-year contribution); $US 11,000 for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (also under the multi-year agreement); $US 20,000 for the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities, and $US 10,000 for the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

34. The representative of ARGENTINA said that his country had provided strong and sustained support for the development activities of the United Nations system, particularly the activities of UNDP, and would continue to do so. As soon as the national budget for 1984 was approved, his Government would inform the Secretariat of its contribution for 1984.

35. The representative of AUSTRALIA said that his country was still unable to announce the exact amount of its contribution to UNDP, but would maintain at least the level of its contribution in Australian currency, which had amounted to $A 16 million in 1983. The contribution to UNICEF, which was subject to parliamentary approval of the Australia budget, would be $A 2.25 million; and the contribution to UNFPA was $A 1.125 million. When the Australian budget for 1984-1985 was considered, the possibility of increasing the contributions to UNICEF and UNFPA would be studied. Australia would also contribute $A 150,000 to UNIDF; $A 150,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development Activities; $A 110,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; $A 120,000 to UNDRO; $A 90,000 to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa; $A 70,000 to the United Nations Fund for Namibia and $A 60,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa. All those contributions would be made in convertible currency.

36. The representative of AUSTRIA said that his country would contribute S 134,710,000 to UNDP, of which the equivalent of $US 50,000 would be earmarked for the UNDP study programme set up in accordance with decision 81/30 of the Governing Council of UNDP to finance the seminar to be held in Vienna in September 1984. His Government was also prepared to earmark an appropriate part of that contribution for the UNDP-World Bank evaluation programmes for the energy sector and energy sector management. It would also contribute S 14 million to UNICEF, S 175,000 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers, which was 20 per cent higher than its contribution for the previous year; S 368,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; S 123,000 to INSTRAW; and S 634,000 to UNFPA. The Austrian Government was also pledging a contribution of S 12 million to UNIDF. Of that contribution, which was subject to parliamentary approval, S 1 million constituted a general contribution to the Fund and the rest would be used in specific projects and programmes to be carried out during 1984. S 1.4 million would also be contributed to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, S 500,000 to UNITAR, and S 300,000 to UNCDF, to which his Government had pledged an annual contribution of S 300,000 until 1986, and Austria was considering the possibility of participating in specific projects of the Fund on a multilateral or bilateral basis.

37. The representative of BAHRAIN said that his country would contribute $US 5,000 to UNIDO, $US 7,500 to UNICEF and $US 56,000 to UNDP, which would be broken down in the following manner: an annual voluntary contribution of $US 16,000 to the programme, and $US 40,000 for the financing of programme costs.

38. The representative of BANGLADESH expressed the hope that the results of the current Conference would be more encouraging than those of previous years and that the stagnation in the operational activities for development of the United Nations system could be overcome. Bangladesh would contribute $US 200,000 to UNDP, which was 14 per cent higher than the contribution for 1982, and 715,000 taka to defray the programme expenses of the local UNDP office, which was an increase over the previous contribution. His country would contribute $US 7,200 to general UNICEF funds, which was 20 per cent higher than the previous contribution; $US 3,750 to UNCDF, which was an increase of 14 per cent and $US 2,280 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development. His country also pledged the following contributions, which represented an increase of 10 per cent respectively: $US 14,500 to UNFPA; $US 2,200 to UNEP; $US 1,100 to the United Nations Volunteers; $US 1,100 to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration; and $US 2,200 to UNIDF.

39. The representative of BELGIUM pledged the following contributions for 1984, subject to approval by the Parliament: BF 600 million to UNDP; BF 37 million to general UNICEF funds, to which BF 16 million earmarked for specific projects would be added; BF 20 million to UNFPA, which included the special contribution to the preparations for the World Population Conference; BF 10 million to the United Nations Volunteers; BF 24 million to UNIDF for industrial development projects to be selected by common agreement; BF 10 million to the Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for projects to be selected; BF 5 million to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration; BF 4 million to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women for specific projects to be selected; BF 3 million to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, pending the results of the negotiations on that subject; and BF 925,000 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control. Those contributions would be supplemented by substantial amounts which the Belgian Government was earmarking for programmes of associate experts in various bodies of the United Nations system and the financing of fellowships and courses. The Belgian Parliament had recently approved a survival fund for the third world amounting to a total of BF 10 billion, or approximately $US 200 million, of which approximately 4 million could be used in 1984.

40. The representative of BHUTAN stressed the importance of contributions to development activities for the least developed countries, commended the work carried out by United Nations agencies, particularly UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNCDF and the United Nations Volunteers, and pledged the following contributions from his country, which would be made in the national currency: $US 5,000 to UNDP; $US 3,630 to UNICEF; $US 1,810 to UNFPA; $US 1,650 to UNCDF; $US 1,440 to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries; $US 1,440 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development; $US 1,440 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries; $US 1,200 to UNIDF, and $US 820 to the United Nations Volunteers.

41. The representative of BOLIVIA said that his country would announce the amount of its contributions as soon as the Parliament adopted the budget for the next fiscal year.

42. The representative of BOTSWANA said that, because of its precarious economic situation, which had been recently aggravated by the drought, his country had been forced to reduce its contributions to certain development activities. He pledged the following contributions: 18,700 pulas (P) to UNDP; P 5,000 to UNCDF; P 400 to the United Nations Volunteers; P 2,000 to Habitat; P 5,000 to UNIDF; P 10,000 to UNICEF; P 5,000 to Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; P 1,400 to UNFPA; and P 5,500 to defray the local administrative costs of UNDP.

43. The representative of BRAZIL pledged the following contributions by his country: $US 5,000 for the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $US 10,000 for the United Nations Special Fund for Land-Locked Developing Countries; $US 20,000 to UNEP; $US 15,000 to UNIDF; $US 10,000 for the United Nations Volunteers programme; $US 100,000 for UNICEF; and $US 2,503,394 for UNDP. In addition, in agreement with the UNDP Governing Council, Brazil would also contribute the equivalent of 14 per cent of its pledge, payable in cruzeiros. Owing to severe budgetary constraints, Brazil was unable to contribute to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, despite the importance it attached to that programme, but would try to apply other forms of co-operation in order to contribute to the implementation of the projects of the Decade. When the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development was established, and assuming that it would be based on voluntary contributions and accept contributions in national currencies, Brazil would consider making a contribution in cruzeiros.

44. The representative of BULGARIA pledged a voluntary contribution by his Government of 610,000 leva to UNDP, which included a contribution of $US 100,000 for the training of personnel from developing countries. In 1984, Bulgaria would also contribute Lw 50,000 to cover local programme costs. It would also contribute Lw 4,500 to the expenses of the European office of UNDP at Geneva. Finally, it would contribute Lw 100,000 to UNIDF. Those contributions were subject to approval by the Bulgarian National Assembly.

45. The representative of BURMA pledged a contribution of 900,000 kyats to UNDP, the equivalent in kyats of $1,000 to UNIDF, K 30,000 to UNFPA and 27,000 pounds sterling and K 30,000 to UNICEF.

46. The representative of BURUNDI said that, despite its current difficulties, his Government would contribute 400,000 Burundi francs to UNDP, FBu 500,000 to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, FBu 200,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, FBu 500,000 to the UNFPA, FBu 200,000 to UNITAR and FBu 200,000 to UNICEF as special-purpose grants. His Government was studying the possibility of making contributions to other United Nations development programmes, which would be announced later. Burundi's currency was fully convertible.

47. The representative of the BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC said that his Government participated in UNDP activities because they were part of international efforts to overcome the backwardness that the developing countries had inherited from the exploitation in their colonial past, which was continuing and becoming more serious as a result of the practices of foreign private capital. The effectiveness of United Nations operational activities for development was closely linked to the international situation in general, international economic co-operation and efforts to halt the arms race and warlike activities. Highest priority in the utilization of those funds should be given to projects designed to strengthen the economic independence of developing countries and especially to promote the training of national cadres and to develop the key sectors of the economy. His country pledged voluntary contributions of 135,000 roubles for UNDP, 25 per cent of which would be paid in convertible currency, and R 56,000 for UNICEF. It must be assumed that UNDP would try to use up the contributions which had accumulated in roubles.

48. The representative of CANADA said that, subject to parliamentary approval, Canada would contribute 59 million Canadian dollars to UNDP, $Can 13,250,000 to UNICEF and $Can 10,250,000 to UNFPA, which represented an increase of about 10 per cent over the previous year for each programme. Canada accorded high priority to UNDP and had sought to improve its financial situation and system of management. In the spring of 1983, Canada had made a special additional contribution of $Can 7 million to UNDP, chargeable to the 1982/83 fiscal year, in an attempt to help alleviate the Programme's short-term problems, and felt that the other donor countries should make a similar effort. Canada planned to maintain its support for UNDP in 1985/86 and 1986/87 on the understanding that the decisions made and any additional improvements would be implemented. As long as improvements were made, Canada would not reduce its contribution and would consider increases if significant beneficial changes occurred. In addition, he pledged the following contributions, subject to normal parliamentary approval procedures: $US 903,000 to UNEP; $Can 173,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation as the first instalment of a pledge of $Can 580,000 paid over three years for support of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements office for North America in Vancouver; $Can 90,000 for UNITAR for the General Fund, plus possible support for specific projects; $Can 20,000 for the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women as the second of three instalments pledged for the Decade. Canada's full contribution for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless ($Can 300,000) had been paid to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation.

49. The representative of CAPE VERDE said that, as a recipient, his country attached great importance to United Nations development activities. UNDP, UNIDO, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNCDF, UNFPA and other bodies had contributed considerably to Cape Verde's development since its independence. Cape Verde's ability to translate its interest into effective contributions was limited. However, its Government would contribute 370,000 Cape Verdean escudos, equivalent to $US 5,000, to UNDP and in 1984 would allocate C.V. Esc 3,370,000 of its IPF, equivalent to $US 45,000, to financing UNDP expenditure in Praia. Cape Verde's contributions to other funds and programmes of the United Nations system would be announced later.

50. The representative of CHILE said that his Government would contribute $US 10,000 to UNIDF, $US 5,000 to UNEP, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $US 3,000 to UNITAR, $US 100,000 to UNICEF, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, $US 5,000 to the Special Account for Financing the Implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, $US 5,000 to UNFPA and $US 970,000 to UNDP. In addition to its voluntary contributions to UNDP, Chile would contribute an additional $US 150,000 to the expenses of the office of the Resident Representative in Santiago.

51. The representative of CHINA said that, despite its current difficulties, his country would increase its contributions to the United Nations agencies engaged in economic and technical co-operation. He announced contributions of $US 1,750,000 to UNDP (an increase of 6 per cent over 1983); $US 400,000 for UNFPA (an increase of 21 per cent); $US 350,000 to UNICEF (an increase of 16 per cent); 600,000 yuan renminbi and $US 100,000 to UNIDO (an increase of 9 per cent and 43 per cent respectively); RMB 300,000 to UNCDF (an increase of 36 per cent); $US 20,000 for the United Nations Volunteers programme; $US 20,000 to UNITAR; $US 20,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; and $US 5,000 for the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

52. The representative of the CONGO announced that his country would contribute 7 million CFA Francs to UNICEF; CFAF 1.5 million to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat); CFAF 5 million to UNDP; CFAF 1 million to the Financing System for Science and Technology for Development; $US 10,000 to UNDIO; CFAF 3 million to the Fund for Voluntary Contributions to the United Nations Development Decade; and $US 10,000 to UNITAR.

53. The representative of CUBA said that his Government would contribute 463,728 Cuban pesos to UNDP, representing a 14 per cent increase over its contribution for 1983. In addition, it would contribute 216,000 pesos to programme costs and 20,000 pesos to UNCDF. He also pledged $US 100,000 and 15,000 pesos to UNICEF. His Government would contribute 27,500 pesos to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development provided contributions in national currency would be acceptable; the Government might decide to contribute in convertible currency and an appropriate announcement would be made in due course. Cuba would also contribute 21,000 pesos to UNIDF. As regards UNFPA, his Government would offer 3 fellowships, for a period of 10 months each, in the Institute for Health Development and 12 experts for periods of 3 months each, representing a total of $US 105,000 for 1983. Finally, it would contribute 1,000 pesos to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

54. The representative of CYPRUS said that his Government would have wished to make a substantial contribution to United Nations operational activities for development. The situation of the country had deteriorated, however, as a consequence of the occupation of part of the island, thus preventing it from making more than symbolic contributions. Although the Government proposed to contribute to a number of development activities in 1984, the only firm pledges which it could

(The representative of Cyprus)

make for the moment were: $US 300 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and $US 750 to UNFPA. It would also contribute 200,000 Cyprus pounds to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation. Other contributions would be announced in due course.

55. The representative of CZECHOSLOVAKIA announced contributions of 7 million korury to UNDP, Kčs 1 million to UNICEF, Kčs 300,000 to UNEP and Kčs 2 million to UNIDF for the implementation of two projects relating to training in diesel mechanics (Kčs 1,250,000) and the joint programme relating to ceramics, building materials and non-metal base industries (Kčs 750,000).

56. The representative of the DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA announced a contribution of 550,000 won to UNDP.

57. The reprsentative of DEMOCRATIC YEMEN pledged a contribution of $US 60,000 to UNIDF; $US 1,760 to UNCDF; $US 7,040 to UNICEF; $US 1,600 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; $US 1,840 to UNEP; $US 500 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation; $US 10,600 to UNDP; and $US 1,265 to UNITAR, as a token of its support for those organizations.

58. The representative of DENMARK expressed concern about the continued stagnation in the flow of resources to the United Nations development system, in particular to UNDP. Multilateral institutions provided a framework that ensured that all developing countries received a reasonable share of total official development aid. The poorer developing countries would for many years continue to depend on external aid; his Government had accordingly decided to maintain Danish official development assistance well above the 0.7 per cent target and would continue to channel a substantial share of such assistance through multilateral institutions. He expressed the hope that other countries would follow suit. Denmark had decided to increase the level of its contribution to UNDP because of the current serious financial situation of UNDP and as a sign of confidence in it. He hoped that Denmark's contribution would stimulate a new influx of resources to UNDP from both current and potential donors. Denmark would contribute 356 million Danish kroner (approximately $US 38 million) to UNDP for the year 1984, representing an increase of 8.5 per cent in national currency compared with its contribution for 1983. UNCDF complemented the mainly technical assistance from UNDP. Denmark fully supported the activities of that Fund and would contribute DKr 20 million (approximately $US 2.1 million) to it. The Danish contribution to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteer Programme would be DKr 500,000 (approximately $US 55,000). In addition, Denmark pledged contributions of DKr 2 million for the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities; DKr 50.6 million for UNICEF, which represented an increase of 10 per cent over its contribution for 1983; DKr 46 million to UNFPA, also representing an increase of 10 per cent; $US 100,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 50,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, DKr 250,000 for the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, representing an increase of 40 per cent in national currency, and DKr 400,000 to UNITAR. The Danish contributions for 1985

(The representative of Denmark)

and 1986 were expected to be of the same magnitude as that for 1984. The pledges by the Danish Government came to a total of DKr 477 million (approximately $US 51 million) for 1984 and were additional to other voluntary Danish contributions to a number of those same institutions earmarked for specific projects or special programmes. The pledges were all subject to parliamentary approval and would be paid in fully convertible currencies.

59. The representative of DJIBOUTI said that his Government would contribute $US 2,000 to UNDP and $US 2,000 to UNICEF, both payable in convertible Djibouti francs.

60. The representative of ECUADOR said that the operational activities of the United Nations represented an example of North-South co-operation for a peaceful world. Bilateral assistance could not be a substitute for multilateral measures, which were the basis of United Nations programmes and were designed to be catalysts of the economic efforts of developing countries. The critical lack of resources which affected the operational system, particularly UNDP, was to be regretted. Notwithstanding the difficult economic situation of his country, made worse by unprecedented droughts and floods, Ecuador had made an extraordinary effort to make the contributions which he was about to pledge and which would be paid in United States dollars. Ecuador would contribute $US 222,465 to UNDP, including $US 19,728 towards the maintenance of the office of the Resident Representative in Quito, plus $US 240,000 for programme costs, making a total of $US 462,465 for 1984. In addition, it would contribute $US 25,407 to UNICEF, $US 20,000 to UNFPA, $US 5,000 to UNIDF and $US 5,000 to UNEP.

61. The representative of EGYPT said that the voluntary contribution of his country to UNDP would be 371,570 Egyptian Pounds, including LE 154,558 towards defraying the local costs of the UNDP regional office in Cairo, plus the sum of LE 197,000 for programme costs. It would also contribute LE 17,392 to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, LE 67,545 to UNICEF, representing an increase of 14 per cent over the previous year; LE 59,565 to UNIDF, also representing an increase of 14 per cent, $US 500 to International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, LE 188,100 to UNFPA, LE 12,500 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, LE 20,000 to UNEP, $US 1,000 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, and $US 5,000 to UNITAR.

62. The representative of ETHIOPIA announced that his country would contribute 300,000 Ethiopian birr to UNDP, together with Br 60,000 to defray the cost of the local office, and Br 102,000 to UNICEF. Ethiopia would inform the representatives of the two agencies of the currencies in which those contributions would be paid.

63. The representative of FIJI announced the following contributions, subject to parliamentary approval: 44,000 Fiji dollars to UNDP, $F 1,050 to UNIDF, $F 1,900 to UNICEF, $F 1,000 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development and $F 2,000 to UNFPA. Fiji's contribution to financing the cost of the UNDP regional office would be announced later.

64. The representative of FINLAND said that the GNP percentage of Finland's official development assistance (ODA) would increase from 0.36 per cent in the present year to 0.40 per cent in the coming year. Multilateral assistance represented about 0.14 per cent of GNP. The continued increase in Finnish ODA demonstrated Finland's determination to reach the 0.7 per cent target despite economic difficulties. Finland would contribute Fmk 50 million to UNDP, in compliance with the 14 per cent annual growth target. Its aim was to channel 0.05 per cent of its GNP to the least developed countries. Accordingly, Finland would increase its contribution to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries to Fmk 4 million and to UNCDF to Fmk 5.75 million. Finland was pledging Fmk 35 million to UNICEF, representing a 75 per cent increase over the pledge for 1983. An amount of Fmk 5 million in the pledge was earmarked for the Expanded Programme of Immunization. Finland would contribute Fmk 8.5 million for UNFPA, an increase of 31 per cent over the previous pledge; Fmk 500,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation; Fmk 500,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; Fmk 150,000 to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations; Fmk 200,000 to UNITAR; and Fmk 3.3 million to UNEP.

65. The representative of FRANCE said that his country hoped to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of GNP by 1988 and that its budget for development assistance would increase in the coming year more rapidly than total public expenditure. In 1984 France's total voluntary contributions to United Nations development activities would increase by more than 20 per cent. France would contribute FF 220,581,300 to UNDP. It was also contributing FF 15 million to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries. France announced the following pledges, subject to parliamentary approval: FF 33 million to UNICEF, an increase of 25.7 per cent; FF 8.5 million to UNIDF, an increase of 21.4 per cent; FF 2.2 million to UNFPA, an increase of 46.5 per cent; FF 6,754,000 to UNEP, an increase of 12.5 per cent; FF 1,500,000 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, an increase of 50 per cent; FF 620,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, an increase of 38 per cent; FF 660,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, an increase of 10 per cent; FF 220,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, an increase of 10 per cent; FF 160,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, an increase of 11.8 per cent; FF 300,000 to UNITAR, an increase of 20 per cent; and FF 800,000 to the United Nations University, compared with FF 573,000 in 1983. With regard to science and technology for development, France had made arrangements to contribute to the financing system as soon as it was in operation. France would also contribute FF 220,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the World Assembly on Aging, FF 165,000 to the Trust Fund for the International Year of Disabled Persons and FF 165,000 to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. Those contributions represented an increase of 10 per cent in each case.

66. The representative of GABON reaffirmed his country's support for the principle of using multilateral institutions for co-operation for development and said that Gabon would announce its contributions as soon as the National Assembly had adopted the budget.

67. The representative of the GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC said that his Government would contribute M 1 million to UNDP, M 320,000 to UNIDF and M 280,000 to UNICEF. The German Democratic Republic gave additional assistance to UNICEF through its UNICEF National Committee. In the present year, for example, M 500,000 worth of drugs and medicines had been presented to the UNICEF representative in Phnom Penh for UNICEF's programme in the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The National Committee had also agreed to train Lao citizens free of charge to work in the UNICEF printing office at Ventiane. During the current year the National Committee would provide a further M 200,000 worth of assistance to the People's Republic of Angola and would again participate in additional UNICEF programmes in 1984. To date, only about half of the funds contributed to UNDP had been used for project activities and the other half lay idle. On the other hand, the voluntary contributions to other United Nations bodies and agencies, such as IAEA, UNIDO, UNEP and UNICEF had been fully used for the implementation of programmes to benefit developing countries. The German Democratic Republic had therefore decided to divert M 1 million originally envisaged for UNDP for 1984 to UNIDO. That organization had been using contributions effectively in accordance with the urgent priorities of the developing countries and it needed additional resources in order to continue or expand current projects. His country's contribution would be used for the continuation of training courses in the fields of industrial planning, printing and pesticides formulation for participants from developing countries.

68. The representative of the FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY said that, in spite of difficulties and the need for further austerity in public budgeting, his Government would be increasing nearly all of its voluntary contributions to operational activities for development in the United Nations system. His pledges would be subject to parliamentary approval. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany would contribute DM 116 million to UNDP. It welcomed the establishment in UNDP of the Central Evaluation Unit and the Committee of the Whole. It would continue its co-operation with UNFPA, to which it would contribute DM 148 million. It would also contribute DM 14 million to UNICEF, representing an increase of more than 20 per cent over the previous year. It would also co-operate in the financing of specific projects up to DM 4.2 million in 1984, an increase of 16 per cent. It would contribute DM 500,000 to UNITAR programmes, representing an increase of 11 per cent. It also intended to make available up to DM 6.4 million to UNIDF, an increase of 4 per cent. The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany was satisfied with the work of the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and had submitted a proposal to Parliament for a voluntary contribution of up to DM 2 million to the Fund, in addition to DM 1.67 million to be made available for existing and future projects. He had pleasure in announcing a contribution of DM 50,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. Although his Government was not in a position to contribute to the other funds and programmes covered by the Conference, it was involved, directly or indirectly, in the UNDP Study Programme, in a number of projects in connection with the African Transport and Communications Decade and in activities in the Sudano-Sahelian region to which it was providing capital and technical assistance.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

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1983 UNITED NATIONS PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 8 November 1983, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. ZUCONI (Italy)

later: Mr. OM PRADHAN (Bhutan)

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Statements regarding pledges (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

STATEMENTS REGARDING PLEDGES (continued)

1. The representative of GHANA said that he was not in a position to announce pledges but could reaffirm his Government's commitment to development activities within the United Nations system. Its pledges would be communicated directly to the organizations concerned at the appropriate time.

2. The representative of GREECE said that his country's pledge of $US 1,037,400 to UNDP, subject to parliamentary approval of the budget, represented an 11.5 per cent increase over 1983 and an even heavier burden because of the strength of the dollar and inflationary pressures. His Government's commitment to United Nations development programmes remained firm and it had spared no effort to continue its voluntary contributions. It was making the following pledges to specific programmes, again subject to parliamentary approval: UNICEF, $US 135,000; UNFPA, $US 5,000; Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 3,500; UNITAR, $US 5,000; United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, $US 2,500; UNCDF, $US 10,000. In conclusion, he reiterated his Government's appreciation and support for United Nations activities in the various fields of development.

3. The representative of GUATEMALA said his Government considered the activities of UNDP and of the specialized agencies, especially UNICEF, to be very important. It was therefore pledging 189,000 quetzales to UNDP and 30,000 quetzales to UNICEF.

4. The representative of GUINEA said that his Government was pledging $US 1,000 each to UNDP, the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development Activities, UNEP, UNICEF and the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, making a total voluntary contribution of $US 5,000.

5. The representative of HAITI said that, pending further instructions, the only pledge he was in a position to announce on behalf of his Government was $US 5,000 to UNDP. Details of other voluntary contributions would be communicated in due course.

6. The representative of HONDURAS said that her Government would have liked to make a much greater contribution but was only in a position to pledge a total of 261,000 lempiras, equivalent to $US 130,500, distributed among the following programmes (in lempiras): UNDP, 75,000 plus 150,000 for UNDP local costs; World Food Programme, 10,000; UNFPA, 20,000; United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, 4,000; and the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, 2,000.

7. The representative of HUNGARY announced that his Government would make a contribution of 29.2 million forints to UNDP, 10 per cent of which could be used as convertible currency if necessary to facilitate use of the remainder. In addition, his country would maintain its voluntary contribution to programme costs at the forint equivalent of 8 per cent of the amount of UNDP assistance allocated to it

(The representative of Hungary)

for 1984 and would contribute to the operating costs of the UNDP Office at Geneva. His country also pledged 3 million forints to UNIDF, of which 10 per cent could again be used as convertible currency to facilitate use of the remainder. A similar provision would apply to its pledge of 950,000 forints to UNEP. His Government was also pledging 950,000 forints to UNICEF, 500,000 forints to UNFPA and 200,000 forints to UNITAR. It would endeavour to transfer all contributions towards the end of the first quarter of 1984 in an effort to support the financial position of the various recipients. His Government hoped that its voluntary contributions would continue to be used effectively to promote development efforts in developing countries.

8. The representative of ICELAND said that, subject to parliamentary approval, his Government was making the following pledges to various United Nations development activities: UNDP, 1.788 million kronur; UNICEF, 332,000 kronur; UNEP, $US 4,500; UNFPA, $US 2,600; Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 6,000; and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $US 2,000.

9. The representative of INDIA said he hoped soon to be in a position to announce his Government's pledges for 1984 to UNDP and UNIDF. Its contribution to the former, to whose activities it attached great importance, would be at least equal to the 70 million rupees pledged in 1981 and 1982. His Government was pledging 16 million rupees to UNICEF and 3.2 million rupees to UNFPA. Further contributions would be made in the following amounts to other United Nations development activities: UNCHS, $US 100,000, half of which would be in convertible currency; Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 20,000; United Nations Volunteers, $US 5,000 in convertible currency; UNEP, $US 100,000; UNITAR, $US 25,000, an increase of 25 per cent; and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $US 7,000. His Government also attached importance to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development as an area of particular concern for developing countries and hoped that it would be established on a long-term basis without delay. His country's contribution to that system would be communicated in due course.

10. The representative of INDONESIA said that his country's contributions to development activities in 1984 would be no less than in 1983, a reflection of its commitment to multilateral co-operation in that field. He was pleased to announce the following pledges on behalf of his Government: UNDP, $US 1.1 million, not including programme costs; UNFPA, $US 150,000; UNICEF, $US 300,000; UNIDF, $US 50,000; United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, $US 12,000; UNEP, $US 12,000; UNCHS, $US 10,000; UNITAR, $US 4,000; United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, $US 10,000; Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 3,000; United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, $US 5,000; and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $US 2,000. He also wished to announce the following contributions: $US 3,000 to the United Nations Fund for South Africa, $US 3,000 to the United Nations Fund for the Education and Training Programme for Southern Africa, $US 4,000 to the United Nations Fund for Namibia, and $US 5,000 to the World Disarmament Campaign.

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11. The representative of IRAQ said that although his Government supported the activities of international organizations in the development field and had in the past contributed generously to them, it was unable to pledge voluntary contributions so long as the difficult conditions in which his country currently found itself continued. His Government would resume making voluntary contributions in accordance with its possibilities when circumstances again permitted.

12. The representative of IRELAND said that as her Government had not yet published its budget estimates for 1984, she could not indicate what voluntary contributions it would make to development activities, but the amounts eventually approved would be communicated as soon as possible. Meanwhile, she reaffirmed her Government's support for the activities of the various United Nations agencies involved, especially UNDP and UNICEF.

13. The representative of ISRAEL announced that, subject to final approval, his Government would contribute $US 70,000 in fully convertible shekels to UNDP, $US 3,000 to UNITAR and $US 50,000 to UNICEF. The contributions reflected the importance which his Government attached to the activities of those organizations in their respective fields.

14. The representative of ITALY said that, although financial conditions were still a cause for concern, his country intended to increase its support for multilateral aid in an effort to reduce the constraints affecting United Nations agencies. Its voluntary contributions for 1984 had been allocated in accordance with the three criteria of consistency with the UNDP consensus of 1980, the needs of the least developed countries and the necessity of concentrating support on a limited number of development organizations. Its contribution to UNDP in 1984 would be 43 billion lire, an increase of 14 per cent. In addition, his Government pledged the following amounts to various UNDP-administered funds: UNFPA, 3.5 billion lire, an increase of more than 16 per cent over the sharply increased 1983 contribution; United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities, 600 million lire, an increase of 20 per cent over 1983; United Nations Capital Development Fund, 3.5 billion lire, an increase of more than 16 per cent intended to emphasize concern for the problems of the poorer countries; and the United Nations Volunteers, 200 million lire. In 1983, his country had made an unprecedented contribution to UNICEF, including an allocation of 7.6 billion lire as a first instalment towards a special contribution of $7.5 million to fight infant mortality in the less developed countries. For 1984, his Government pledged an overall contribution of 22.3 billion lire to maintain its position as one of UNICEF's leading donors. It would also host UNICEF's Executive Council meeting. With respect to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, his Government was pledging 4 billion lire for 1984, compared with 3 billion lire in 1983, and its pledge to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control had been doubled to 300 million lire. In addition, it had decided to make a special-purpose contribution of 65 billion lire over five years to support action against drug production in the Andean region, thus fulfilling a promise made at the 1982 pledging conference. His Government would also contribute 650 million lire to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, an increase of 30 per cent, and 350 million lire to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. A special contribution of 100 million lire had been allocated to preparations for the

(The representative of Italy)

international conference to mark the end of the Decade in 1985. His Government was also pledging 100 million lire to UNITAR in 1984, an increase of 100 per cent, and 480 million lire to UNEP. In conclusion, he reaffirmed his Government's commitment to United Nations activities in the field of science and technology for development and its intention to contribute to the United Nations Financing System in that field when it became operational. All the pledges he had announced would be in fully convertible Italian lire and were subject to parliamentary approval in the 1984 national budget.

15. The representative of the IVORY COAST said his Government was unable to announce its voluntary contributions to development activities before its budget had been approved by parliament. The details of such contributions would be communicated in due course.

16. The representative of JAMAICA expressed her Government's appreciation for the activities of United Nations development programmes, funds and institutions, especially those which assisted her own country's development efforts. Despite current difficulties her Government was pledging the following amounts to various activities, subject to parliamentary approval: UNDP, 179,840 Jamaican dollars, a further increase of 14 per cent over the previous year; UNICEF, $J 17,000; Special Fund for Preparations for the 1985 World Conference for Women, $J 2,000; Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $J 1,000; United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, $J 1,000; United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $J 1,000; UNCDF, $US 3,000; United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, $US 4,396; UNIDF, $US 4,000; and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, $US 10,000. Details of any further contributions to other activities would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

17. The representative of JAPAN said that as his Government was still in the process of deciding its voluntary contributions for the fiscal year beginning in April 1984, their exact amounts would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as decisions had been finalized. In spite of current difficulties, his Government's policy was still to increase overseas development assistance with the aim of doubling it in five years. His Government had made every effort to increase its co-operation with United Nations development activities and its financial contributions were second only to those of the United States of America. It highly appreciated the role UNDP was playing in the economic development of developing countries and would therefore make the greatest effort in 1984 to increase its contribution which, despite the unfavourable exchange rate between the yen and the United States dollar, had been the third largest in 1983 at $US 54.8 million. His Government was also considering an appropriate contribution to UNFPA, to which it had allocated $US 36.85 million in 1983. It would likewise continue its positive co-operation with the United Nations Revolving Fund for the Exploration of Natural Resources, to which it had contributed almost $US 24 million between 1974 and 1983, in view of the unique role played by that Fund in development activities. His country also recognized the importance of the activities of UNICEF, in particular the Child Health Revolution it was promoting. His Government would, therefore, further increase its contribution to UNICEF in 1984. In recognition of the role played by UNCDF in assisting small-scale projects in the least developed countries,

(The representative of Japan)

his Government had contributed $US 1 million to the Fund each year since 1980 and was considering a further contribution for 1984. Consideration was also being given to making suitable contributions to UNIDF, the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, UNITAR, the United Nations University and the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

18. The representative of KENYA said that in spite of the difficult economic situation which countries like his own had been facing in recent years, his Government was pledging 60,000 Kenyan pounds to UNDP for 1984. It also pledged £K 800 to UNITAR, £K 570 to the World Food Programme, £K 7,000 to UNICEF, £K 6,000 to the UNICEF local office, £K 2,250 to UNFPA, £K 13,800 to the UNDP office at Nairobi, £K 46,000 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, £K 11,500 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, £K 2,760 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and $US 45,000 each to UNEP and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements. The Kenyan pound was fully convertible and the same arrangements regarding the payment of Kenya's pledges would be made as in the past.

19. The representative of KUWAIT said that, as a developing country, Kuwait attached great importance to United Nations development activities and continued to do all it could to support those activities. Thus, for 1984, his Government pledged to contribute $US 200,000 to UNICEF, $US 75,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, $US 25,000 to UNFPA, $US 15,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and $US 20,000 to UNITAR. Because Kuwait also attached importance to the problems of food and food security, particularly in the least developed countries, the Kuwaiti Government would make the same contribution in kind (equivalent to $US 250,000) as in 1983 to the World Food Programme in 1984. In acknowledgement of the outstanding role played by UNDP in the various areas of development, his country would maintain its contribution for 1984 at the 1983 level of $US 570,000, pending endorsement by the Kuwaiti Government.

20. The representative of the LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC said that, despite notable improvements in the agricultural and other sectors of his country's economy, the Lao People's Democratic Republic continued to experience tremendous economic and financial difficulties. Its contribution would therefore be identical to that for 1983. Taking into account the actual capacity of the country, he announced the following pledges: $US 19,600, payable in local currency, to UNDP; $US 500 to UNFPA; $US 1,500 to the United Nations Environment Programme; $US 1,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-Locked Developing Countries; $US 1,500 to UNIDO; and $US 5,000 to UNICEF. Those contributions were intended as an expression of his country's appreciation to the various agencies of the United Nations for the activities which they had carried out in the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

21. Mr. Pradhan (Bhutan) took the Chair.

22. The representative of LEBANON said that despite the fluctuations in voluntary contributions for development activities, those contributions remained essential. United Nations operational activities for development helped developing countries

(The representative of Lebanon)

realize their hopes and helped instil confidence in the usefulness of the United Nations system. Lebanon faced long-standing problems resulting from the war still being waged in the country. Nevertheless, the Lebanese Government remained committed to the needs for international co-operation and solidarity and consequently pledged to contribute $US 360,000 to UNDP, $US 50,000 to UNICEF and $US 2,000 to UNIDO.

23. The representative of LESOTHO noted that available resources continued to fall short of the amount required to alleviate the problems of developing countries. Only a few countries, among them his own, had heeded appeals to increase contributions for development activities by at least 14 per cent. If Member States truly believed that the United Nations system played a significant role in assisting the developing countries, then that belief should be matched by action, since the effectiveness of the system depended on its capacity to implement its goals. Consequently, out of its modest budget, his Government would contribute $US 56,500 to United Nations development activities in 1984, distributed in the following manner: $US 45,000 to UNDP, $US 1,500 to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, $US 1,500 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-Locked Countries, $US 1,000 to the United Nations Volunteers, $US 500 for the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, $US 2,000 for the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, $US 1,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 2,500 to UNICEF, and $US 1,500 to UNFPA.

24. The representative of the LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA said that his country attached great importance to United Nations operational activities for development and had been a leading contributor to various development programmes. For example, in 1980 and 1981, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya had contributed $US 2,685,000 to, inter alia, UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF. However, economic pressures exerted on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the Government of the United States had interfered with his country's economy to the extent that his Government was currently unable to make any new pledges. However, it continued to attach importance to bilateral efforts and multilateral co-operation within the framework of the specialized agencies of the United Nations.

25. The representative of LUXEMBOURG pledged 3,73$,000 Luxembourg francs to UNDP for 1984. Moreover, since Luxembourg had agreed to participate for the first time in a UNDP training programme, that contribution would in fact be increased by an additional LuxF 2.5 million. He also pledged the following contributions for 1984: LuxF 265,000 to UNFPA, LuxF 850,000 to UNICEF, LuxF 290,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, LuxF 100,000 to UNITAR, LuxF 630,000 to the World Food Programme, and LuxF 320,000 to UNEP. All the contributions in Luxembourg francs were entirely convertible and were subject to parliamentary approval.

26. The representative of MADAGASCAR said that his Government would make the following contributions in Malagasy francs: 3.5 million to UNICEF, 3,000,000 to the World Food Programme, 1,000,000 to the Trust Fund of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and 250,000 to INSTRAW. Additional contributions from the Malagasy Government would be announced at a later date.

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27. The representative of MALAYSIA said that in 1984 his Government would contribute $US 385,000 to UNDP and $US 84,200 to UNICEF's general resources. Malaysia's contributions to other development funds were currently the subject of serious consideration by his Government.

28. The representative of the MALDIVES announced contributions from the Maldivian Government in the amounts of $US 3,000 to UNICEF, $US 600 to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, $US 1,800 to UNDP and $US 871 to UNFPA. In addition, the Maldivian Government pledged 15,000 Maldivian rupees towards the maintenance of the UNDP office in the Maldives. He took the occasion to express his country's appreciation of the work done by donor countries and international agencies, especially UNDP and UNICEF, in the Maldives.

29. The representative of MALTA said that, as his country's national budget was currently in preparation, he could not announce his Government's contributions to United Nations development activities at present, but would do so when he received the relevant information from his Government.

30. The representative of MEXICO said since the beginning of the current session of the General Assembly, his delegation had stressed the need to strengthen the United Nations in order to ensure peace and promote economic and social development. Mexico was committed to international co-operation and advocated a "new multilateralism" which would be best expressed by a strengthening of operational activities for development. Mexico was attempting to maximize its voluntary contribution to development activities at a time of great economic difficulty both Mexico and throughout the world. He was consequently unable to pledge specific amounts at the present meeting, but he assured participants that his Government would make its contributions known at a later date in an effort to strengthen those fundamental United Nations activities.

31. The representative of MONACO said that, subject to Government approval of the budget, Monaco would contribute 28,000 French francs to UNDP and FF 28,000 to UNICEF.

32. The representative of MONGOLIA said that his country was increasing its contributions to UNDP and the United Nations Industrial Development Fund by 4 and 5 per cent respectively to demonstrate its continued support for the efforts of United Nations activities in developing countries. Thus, in 1984, his Government would contribute 91,520 tughriks to UNDP and 7,350 tughriks to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund. His Government intended to make the following additional contributions (in tughriks): 3,000 to UNEP, 1,700 to UNFPA, 1,000 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development and 498,000 to UNDP as Mongolia's share of programme costs. Finally, his Government would contribute $US 3,500 to UNICEF, payable in Mongolian currency.

33. The representative of MOROCCO said that his Government continued to attach great importance to development programmes, particularly UNDP, and had therefore increased its contributions to that programme by 5 per cent. Morocco pledged 167,425,000 Moroccan dirhams to UNDP for 1984. It also pledged the following contributions (in dirhams): 50,000 to the United Nations Capital Development Fund,

(The representative of Morocco)

50,627 to UNIDO and 80,000 to the World Food Programme. Morocco would also contribute $US 10,000 to UNHCR, $US 4,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, $US 4,000 to UNFPA, $US 3,000 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and $US 5,000 to the United Nations Volunteers. Morocco's contribution to UNICEF would be broken down into $US 65,000 for the Paris office and $US 35,000 for the office at Algiers.

34. The representative of NEPAL said that he was not yet in a position to announce his Government's pledges, but would do so when that information became available. However, it should be noted that Nepal had increased its contribution to UNDP in 1983 by 25 per cent over the 1982 level and the Nepalese Government intended to maintain that level in 1984. It was also considering increasing the amount of its contributions to the agencies to which it had contributed in 1983.

35. The representative of the NETHERLANDS said that even in difficult times his Government continued to allocate 1.5 per cent of its net national income for development co-operation. However, because of a decrease in net national income, the contributions of the Netherlands to most United Nations funds would be somewhat less in 1984. That did not imply any change in his Government's appreciation of those funds, but reflected the strong disapproval of the Netherlands at the fact that its appeals for a more equitable sharing of the costs of development activities had not been heeded. Even after the reductions that would be made in 1984 contributions, the Netherlands remained a leading contributor to development activities, and he appealed to countries which lagged behind to increase their contributions.

36. Subject to parliamentary approval, the Netherlands would contribute 129.2 million Netherlands guilders (equivalent to $US 43.8 million) to UNDP and 11.6 million guilders (equivalent to $US 3.9 million) to the United Nations Capital Development Fund. His Government's contribution to UNFPA would be maintained at the 1983 level of 34.5 million guilders ($US 11.6 million). He also pledged 17.6 million guilders ($US 5.9 million) to UNICEF and 14 million guilders ($US 4.7 million) to refugees through the United Nations system, to be broken down into $US 1.64 million to UNRWA and $US 3.06 million to UNHCR. The Netherlands had contributed 500,000 guilders ($US 70,000) to the United Nations Volunteers programme in 1983 and would do the same in 1984. Contributions to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, UNITAR and the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women had not yet been determined.

37. The representative of NEW ZEALAND said that he was unable to announce specific pledges except for the Government's contribution to UNDP, which amounted to 1.5 million New Zealand dollars, including $NZ 50,000 for the Energy Account. New Zealand's other contributions would be announced later and it was hoped that they could be maintained at current levels.

38. A new participant in United Nations development activities was the Pacific island of Tokelau, which had a population of 1,500. On behalf of Tokelau, he was pleased to announce a contribution to UNDP in the amount of $US 2,500.

39. The representative of NIGERIA said that his country had traditionally supported United Nations development activities. However, since a new Administration had just been installed in Nigeria, he was in a position to announce only a contribution of 270,000 naira (roughly equivalent to $US 350,000) to UNICEF general resources. Nigeria's contribution to the Financing System for Science and Technology for Development had been decided and would be announced at a meeting to be convened for that purpose. Nigeria's contributions to other programmes would be announced at a later date.

40. The representative of NORWAY said that her country actively participated in efforts to strengthen the resource base of operational activities for development. She drew attention to the importance of utilizing resources in accordance with the priorities set by developing countries and as effectively as possible. Norway was in the process of streamlining its own development assistance organization and had established a Ministry for Development Assistance that would become fully operational by January 1984. However, Norway's views that multi-year programming should be based on multi-year commitments from donor countries and that funds for United Nations technical assistance should be channelled through UNDP resources remained unchanged. The country's ODA budget for 1984 was 1.15 per cent of estimated GNP; commitments for 1984 were subject to parliamentary approval and the figures given for 1985 and 1986 were indicative planning figures.

41. Norway would contribute 385 million Norwegian kroner to UNDP in 1984, of which NKr 22 million was earmarked for the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries. Contributions for 1985 and 1986 were planned in the amounts of NKr 400 million and NKr 415 million respectively. Norway's contribution to the United Nations Capital Development Fund in 1984 would be NKr 22 million, with NKr 25 million and NKr 28 million planned for 1985 and 1986. The 1984 contribution of NKr 1 million to the United Nations Volunteers would be maintained in 1985 and 1986. Norway was pledging NKr 125 million to UNICEF, with an additional NKr 23 million for noted projects in 1984. The planning figure for 1985 was NKr 135 million and for 1986, NKr 145 million. Her Government would contribute NKr 6 million to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women in 1984, with NKr 7 million planned for 1985. Norway's contribution to INSTRAW for 1984 would be NKr 2.5 million.

42. Norway was pledging NKr 90 million to UNFPA for 1984, with an additional NKr 12 million going for multi-bi projects. The planning figures for 1985 and 1986 were NKr 95 million and NKr 100 million respectively. Norway's contribution to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements would stand at NKr 800,000 in 1984, 1985 and 1986. The United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations would receive NKr 1.5 million in 1984 and 1985. A contribution of NKr 6 million would be made to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control in 1984 and NKr 1 million was pledged to UNITAR for the same year.

43. The representative of OMAN said that, on the instructions of his Government, he was authorized to pledge $US 50,000 to UNICEF, $US 75,000 to UNDP; and $US 10,000 each to UNFPA, UNITAR, the UNEP Environment Fund and the United Nations Industrial Development Fund. Contributions for humanitarian activities would be announced at a later date.

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44. The representative of PANAMA said that, like other developing countries, Panama found itself in a difficult economic situation. The Panamanian Government was trying to reduce the budget deficit caused by the high interest rates of the World Bank and the world recession, which affected all developing countries. With much effort, the Panamanian Government would be able to contribute 236,000 balboas to UNDP, and an additional 120,000 balboas for UNDP programme costs. Additional contributions which the Panamanian Government was in a position to announce at present were (in balboas): 2,000 to the Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, 1,000 to UNFPA, 22,000 to UNICEF general resources, 1,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, and 2,470 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control. All the voluntary contributions in balboas were convertible into United States dollars.

45. The representative of PAPUA NEW GUINEA announced that his country would make a contribution of 4,500 kina to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, 1,000 kina to the UNFPA and 20,000 kina to UNDP, which represented an increase of 2,000 kina over the 1983 contribution and was indicative of his country's high regard for UNDP activities there and elsewhere.

46. The representative of PARAGUAY expressed the appreciation of his Government for the development assistance that it received. He regretted that he had not yet been authorized to announce the specific amounts of his country's pledges and hoped to be able to inform the Secretariat of them as soon as possible.

47. The representative of PERU stressed the importance of international co-operation and, in particular, of United Nations development activities, which constituted a major part of the total resources channelled into the developing world. In spite of his country's difficult economic and financial situation, it would contribute $US 429,647 to UNDP, $US 20,000 to UNIDO, $US 120,000 to UNICEF and $US 25,000 to UNFPA.

48. The representative of the PHILIPPINES announced the following contributions to United Nations development activities: to UNDP, $US 700,000; to UNICEF, $US 413,700; to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, $US 2,000; to the United Nations Volunteers Programme, $US 1,000; to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, $US 10,000; to the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities, $US 5,000; to UNIDF, $US 13,500; to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, $US 50,000; to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $US 3,300; to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, $US 10,000; to the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, $US 3,000; to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, $US 3,000; to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 3,300 and to UNFPA, 1,665,000 Philippine pesos, at the current exchange rate of 14 pesos to the United States dollar. His country had maintained the level of some of its contributions but had been obliged to reduce others, owing to the economic difficulties that it too was experiencing. Nevertheless, his Government was determined to continue to support United Nations development activities as much as it could.

49. The representative of POLAND said that his Government recognized the significant achievements of United Nations development programmes and would continue to support them. Recognizing the recent economic difficulties of UNDP, his country would increase its voluntary contribution to the Programme to 47,000,000 zlotych and would also contribute Zl 8,436,000 for programme costs, of which Zl 351,500 would help defray the costs of travel to Poland of UNDP representatives. His country was also pledging Zl 1,000,000 to UNFPA, in view of the new agreement between his country and the Fund which should lead to still greater co-operation between them, as well as Zl 15,000,000 to UNIDF and Zl 6,945,000 to UNICEF.

50. The representative of PORTUGAL said that her country had endeavoured to maintain and even increase its contributions to United Nations development activities. It would contribute $US 20,000 to UNFPA, $US 15,000 to UNIDF, $US 10,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Actitivies, $US 3,500 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 15,000 to UNICEF and $US 1,500 to the Emergency Assistance Programme of UNICEF for Mothers and Children in Angola. Her Government would announce the specific amount of its voluntary contribution to UNDP at a later date.

51. The representative of QATAR said that his Government was not yet in a position to announce its specific contributions but would do so as soon as possible. It would continue to lend its support to the fine development work carried out by the United Nations.

52. The representative of the REPUBLIC OF KOREA said that his Government would contribute, subject to parliamentary approval, a total of $US 1,173,000 to United Nations development and relief activities broken down in the following manner: to UNDP $US 893,000, of which $US 605,000 was for voluntary contribution and $US 288,000 for programme costs; to UNICEF, $US 147,000; to UNFPA, $US 41,000; to UNIDF, $US 30,000; to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, $US 30,000; to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, $US 20,000; to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 2,000 and to the United Nations Volunteers Programme, $US 10,000. His Government also intended to donate an additional $US 10,000 to the United Nations Volunteers Programme in respect of 1983 as an indication of its clear and firm support for South-South co-operation.

53. The representative of ROMANIA said that, as a developing country, Romania recognized the need for international co-operation and would continue to support United Nations development activities. Responding to the request of the General Assembly, his country had decided in 1981 to make multi-annual pledges to UNDP for the period 1982-1986. His country's 1984 contribution to UNDP, which represented an increase over the 1983 figure, would be 7,850,000 lei. His Government was also pledging 150,000 lei to UNICEF and 60,000 lei to UNFPA and it would again contribute a substantial sum to the United Nations-Romania Demographic Centre in Bucharest. His country would announce its other contributions at a later date.

54. The representative of RWANDA said that his Government's voluntary contribution to UNDP would be $US 15,000, which represented a 50 per cent increase over 1983. He also announced contributions of $US 4,000 to UNIDF, $US 4,000 to UNICEF and $US 1,000 to UNFPA.

55. The representative of SAUDI ARABIA announced his Government's contribution of $US 30,000 to UNFPA and $US 3,500,000 to UNDP, which was $US 1,000,000 higher than it's 1983 contribution. He was awaiting instructions from his Government concerning its pledges to other United Nations development activities.

56. The representative of SENEGAL said that his country too was experiencing serious economic and financial difficulties but wished to give expression to its solidarity with the international community by announcing the following contributions: $US 100,000 to UNDP, $US 15,410 to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, $US 2,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, $US 1,500 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 3,000 to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, $US 7,000 to UNFPA, $US 4,000 to UNIDO, $US 6,000 to UNICEF, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, $US 5,000 to the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities, $US 5,000 to the Special Account for Financing the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, and $US 2,000 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development.

57. The representative of SINGAPORE stressed his country's support for United Nations development activities and said that the specific amounts of Singapore's pledges were still under consideration and would be announced to the Secretariat shortly.

58. The representative of SOMALIA said that Somalia, one of the least-developed countries, deeply appreciated the United Nations operational activities for development, which were symbolic of international co-operation. His Government was pledging 45,000 Somalian shillings to UNDP, SoSh 22,500 to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, SoSh 22,500 to UNFPA, SoSh 22,500 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, SoSh 22,500 to UNEP and SoSh 22,500 to the World Food Programme. His country's other pledges would be announced as soon as possible.

59. The representative of SPAIN said that his Government would announce the following contributions, subject to his country's legal procedures and approval by the Council of Ministers: $US 2,640,000 to UNDP, $US 440,000 to UNICEF and $US 88,000 to UNFPA. Those figures represented an increase of 86 per cent in his country's contribution to UNDP and 55 per cent in its contribution to UNICEF over the 1983 amounts, which, in view of current economic constraints, were indicative of the great effort being made by his Government. Moreover, the contributions were denominated in United States dollars, which had appreciated significantly against Spain's currency and the currencies of most of the other main donor countries. His country was increasing its voluntary contributions in compliance with General Assembly resolutions 37/227 and 37/231 and in recognition of the important role

(The representative of Spain)

played by UNDP in financing and co-ordinating international technical co-operation. By increasing its contribution to UNICEF, it renewed its support to the important work done by that organization and, by contributing for the first time to UNFPA, it recognized the important functions of that Fund.

60. The representative of SRI LANKA said that, in view of the declining trend in multilateral official development assistance, it was essential for the international community to continue, in spite of difficulties, to respond to the needs of developing countries. He announced the following contributions: $US 857,736 to UNDP, a 14 per cent increase over the 1983 figure; $US 3,000 to the United Nations Volunteers Programme; $US 250,000 to UNICEF, an 11 per cent increase over the 1983 contribution; $US 3,000 to UNIDF; $US 4,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and $US 7,500 to UNFPA. He expressed his country's special interest in the work of UNFPA and in the holding of the 1984 International Conference on Population, for which his country hoped to make a contribution.

61. The representative of SUDAN said that his country appreciated the pioneering role played by UNDP in carrying out its development programmes, especially in the developing and the least developed countries. He announced the following pledges as an expression of his country's gratitude and support: $US 200,000 to UNDP, $US 25,000 to UNFPA, $US 35,000 to UNICEF, $US 15,000 to UNIDF, $US 15,000 to UNEP, $US 10,000 to the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, $US 3,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities and $US 1,000 to the United Nations Volunteers Programme. His Government would announce its other contributions at a later date.

62. The representative of SURINAME underscored the importance of development activities and said that his country would announce its contributions to United Nations development activities in the near future.

63. The representative of SWAZILAND said that, subject to parliamentary approval, his country would make the following contributions (in emalangeni): 15,000 to UNDP, an additional 15,000 for the local office expenses of UNDP, 1,000 to UNEP and 6,500 to UNICEF. It would inform the Secretariat of its contribution to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries in due course.

64. The representative of SWEDEN said that his country's detailed views on the important work of the multilateral institutions for development activities would be expressed in a Nordic statement on operational activities to be made in the Second Committee. He reiterated his country's pledge at the previous year's Pledging Conference of 360 million Swedish kronor to UNDP for 1984 and the same amount for 1985, and he announced a contribution of SKr 360 million for 1986, subject to parliamentary approval. He also confirmed the pledges made earlier of SKr 140 million to UNICEF for 1984 and the same amount for 1985, and announced an equivalent pledge for 1986, again subject to parliamentary approval. He confirmed the contributions of SKr 35 million to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, SKr 32 million to the United Nations Capital Development Fund

(The representative of Sweden)

and SKr 48 million to UNFPA, and announced the same contributions for 1985. His Government also pledged SKr 1.65 million to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the Centre's 1984 programme of technical assistance in the developing countries and SKr 1.5 million for 1984 to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations. Sweden had long supported the activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, in particular its efforts to spread information on available services to a large number of countries. In particular, it favoured the holding of training workshops, round-table meetings and regional conferences to discuss the policies, laws and regulations relating to transnational corporations, since such activities could be of long-term benefit to the participants.

65. His country also pledged SKr 4 million to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, whose objective should be to have its pilot projects transformed into national and international development programmes as the Fund's own involvement was phased out. He also announced contributions of SKr 750,000 to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and of SKr 800,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

66. The representative of SWITZERLAND said that, in view of the financial difficulties of many multilateral organizations, it was important to announce specific contributions as early as possible. As an indication of the importance it attached to multilateral co-operation for development and in spite of budgetary constraints, his country was increasing almost all of its 1983 contributions by 10 per cent. He announced the following contributions: 40 million Swiss francs to UNDP, SwF 5.3 million to the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, SwF 4.235 million to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, SwF 300,000 to the United Nations Volunteers Programme with an additional SwF 75,000 for the total financing of the programme of the volunteers from Switzerland, SwF 4 million to the UNDP Energy Fund over the period 1983-1986 to assist the joint UNDP/World Bank Programme, SwF 4 million to UNFPA, SwF 9 million to UNICEF in addition to substantial contributions for specific UNICEF projects in 1984, SwF 4.5 million to UNIDF for 1984 and 1985 to finance specific projects proposed by that Fund, SwF 162,000 to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and SwF 22,500 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence.

67. The representative of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC said that his Government appreciated UNFPA's technical support for its population projects. Its contribution to UNFPA for 1984 would be $US 5,500. In addition, it would be contributing $US 25,000 towards the costs of the 1984 International Conference on Population.

68. The representative of THAILAND said that, as a sign of its keen interest in the development activities of the United Nations system and its continued support for the principle of multilateral co-operation, his Government would make the following contributions, subject to the relevant constitutional formalities: $US 1,001,030 to UNDP, of which $US 200,000 for programme costs and $US 801,030 as voluntary contribution, $US 1,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-Locked Developing Countries, $US 1,500 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers, $US 112,500 to the general resources of UNICEF, 2,080,500 bahts as a supplementary contribution to UNICEF for specific projects,

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(The representative of Thailand)

530,000 bahts to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, $US 48,400 to UNFPA, $US 1,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, $US 3,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and $US 10,000 to the Fund of UNEP. His delegation would notify the Secretary-General of pledges to other programmes and funds as soon as instructions were received from its Government.

69. The representative of TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO said that his Government had always accorded the highest priority to the development activities of the United Nations system and had, within the limits of its resources, contributed substantially to those activities. Trinidad and Tobago was currently engaged in a comprehensive review of its contributions to all international agencies, programmes and funds and was therefore not in a position to state the exact amount of its contributions for United Nations development activities in 1984. After assuring the Conference that his Government remained committed to supporting those activities and would make contributions that were consistent with the pattern established over the past few years, he reviewed the various contributions pledged by Trinidad and Tobago at the previous year's Pledging Conference.

70. The representative of TUNISIA said that, despite its limited resources, his country was increasing by 10 per cent its contributions for development activities. It pledged 184,800 dinars equivalent to $US 260,568, to UNDP, D 107,250 for operating costs of the UNDP Office in Tunis, D 2,100 to UNCDF, D 320 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-Locked Developing Countries, D 14,520 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, D 2,790 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers, D 1,500 to UNITAR, D 15,250 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, D 26,620 to UNICEF and D 13,200 to UNFPA.

71. The representative of TURKEY said that his country would make a voluntary contribution of $US 880,765 to UNDP, of which $50,000 was earmarked for the UNDP study programme. The contribution to UNDP local programme costs would be the equivalent in Turkish liras of $US 320,000, and to UNDP local office costs in Ankara, the equivalent in Turkish liras of $375,000. His Government also pledged $US 153,153 to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the equivalent in liras of $US 108,000 to the World Food Programme, the equivalent in Turkish liras of $US 5,000 for local costs of World Food Programme projects, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, $US 60,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements - Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, $US 10,000 to the Programme for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, 30 million liras to UNICEF, 800,000 liras for operating costs of the UNICEF office in Turkey, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development and $US 10,000 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control. A non-convertible special purpose contribution of 15 million liras to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund to the training programme for technical personnel from developing countries in the fields of cement industry, small-scale casting technology and sugar production from sugar beet reflected the importance that Turkey traditionally attached to United Nations industrial development activities.

72. The representative of UGANDA said that his Government pledged (in non-convertible Ugandan shillings) 3 million to UNDP, 1 million to UNICEF, 500,000 to UNFPA and 500,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation.

73. The representative of the UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC said that his Government had authorized him to announce contributions of 337,500 roubles to UNDP, of which 25 per cent in convertible currency, and 112,500 roubles to UNICEF. Those pledges were based on his Government's policy of providing multilateral aid to developing countries for the development of their own, independent economies. It viewed its contribution not only as a purely financial matter but also as offering an opportunity to interested developing countries to benefit from his country's experience in economic, social and cultural development. The assistance provided to developing countries through the various United Nations funds naturally could not solve all the problems they faced: that was possible only through fundamental social and economic transformations and the restructuring of international economic relations on a just, equitable and democratic basis.

74. The representative of the UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS said that his country would make a voluntary contribution to UNDP of 2,700,000 roubles, of which 25 per cent in convertible currency. He was authorized to state that it intended to continue the practice of earmarking part of that contribution, 1,200,000 roubles including 25 per cent in convertible currency, as a special-purpose contribution to finance various United Nations programmes in the USSR for training personnel from developing countries, including the financing, jointly with the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, of courses on demography given at the Moscow Lomonosov State University. He pointed out that, in addition, his Government expended approximately 1 million roubles annually from the State budget to ensure the success of those measures on the territory of the USSR. The special-purpose allocation of part of the Soviet contribution was wholly in accord with UNDP's financial rules and the Soviet Union did not seek or obtain any unilateral advantages; in practice it facilitated the more effective use of the Soviet contribution by the UNDP administration for the benefit of the developing countries. The special-purpose funds were channelled into a high-priority area of technical assistance - the training of national cadres, whose vital importance for genuine economic independence had been repeatedly stressed in United Nations documents. He wished again to draw attention to the inadequate efforts of the UNDP administration and of other United Nations bodies to use the Soviet contributions and the roubles accumulated in UNDP accounts.

75. The Soviet Union would also contribute 607,500 roubles to UNICEF and 500,000 roubles to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund. He wished to reiterate that Soviet organizations were prepared to co-operate with the various United Nations bodies in assisting developing countries, but artificially created difficulties and obstacles still hampered the fruitful participation of the USSR in United Nations funds and programmes. The measures in which his country participated and in which the developing countries expressed great interest did not always receive the necessary support from UNDP and certain Secretariat services. The Soviet Union would carefully monitor the effectiveness of the use made of its contributions by United Nations bodies.

76. The representative of the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND said that her counry's decisions regarding voluntary contributions reflected its attachment to the principles of concentration on priority areas, support for agencies of proven excellence, a strong concern for central funding - in particular, UNDP's central role in United Nations technical co-operation - and a strong dislike of the proliferation of special funds, which only weakened the efficiency of the system and its ability to follow rational priorities. The United Kingdom was pledging £19 million to UNDP, an increase of £500,000, £6 million to UNICEF and £3 million to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. Other contributions would be announced shortly. Despite continuing severe pressures on its aid programme, her country was maintaining or increasing the level of its contributions to the various agencies, thus indicating the importance it attached to their work, its judgement that they did it well and its continuing commitment to the multilateral dimension.

77. The representative of the UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA said that his Government was pledging 1 million Tanzanian shillings to UNDP, of which half would be for the Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries, TSh 20,000 to UNCDF, TSh 60,000 to UNITAR, TSh 20,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, TSh 285,000 to UNICEF and TSh 40,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation. Those amounts would be in convertible currency. In addition, his Government would contribute TSh 185,000 in non-convertible currency towards the local costs of the UNDP office in Dar-es-Salaam. The United Republic of Tanzania was grateful to the various funds and programmes for their role in international co-operation and to the countries which contributed to them.

78. The representative of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA said that his Government would be continuing its traditionally strong support for the wide range of United Nations development activities. It attached importance to both bilateral and multilateral forms of development assistance, which it considered complementary. The United States intended to make substantial contributions to the various United Nations development programmes and funds and would announce the precise amounts when its budget-making process was completed within the next few months.

79. The representative of UPPER VOLTA said that his Government pledged 1 million CFA francs to UNDP, CFAF 1 million to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, CFAF 500,000 to UNCDF and CFAF 500,000 to UNFPA. Upper Volta accorded particular importance to United Nations operational activities for development. Had it not been for its serious economic difficulties, Upper Volta would be making contributions to other programmes and funds.

80. The representative of URUGUAY said that his Government attached importance to operational activities for development and would subsequently announce its contributions to UNDP, the Fund of UNEP, UNFPA and UNIDF.

81. The representative of VENEZUELA said that because of its difficult budgetary situation, his country had been unable to increase its contributions for 1984, but it fully supported United Nations operational activities, which were currently the clearest manifestation of a concerted international will to co-operation for development. Every effort would be made to keep Venezuela among the net

(The representative of Venezuela)

contributors to UNDP; his Government would continue to support the office of the Resident Co-ordinator in Caracas by offsetting a significant portion of local costs and by increasing the level of its cost sharing in projects being implemented in Venezuela. His Government would announce its contributions to UNDP and to the other funds and activities of the United Nations system in due course.

82. The representative of VIET NAM said that, despite its economic problems, Viet Nam would be making modest contributions to the development programmes and funds of the United Nations system, to which it continued to attach immense importance. In response to the appeal of the Administrator of UNDP, it would be contributing in Vietnamese dong the equivalent of $US 12,000 to UNDP, a 20 per cent increase over the contribution for 1983. It pledged the equivalent of $US 6,000 to UNICEF, also a 20 per cent increase. In addition, Viet Nam pledged the equivalent of $US 1,000 to UNCDF, of $US 1,000 to UNFPA and of $US 1,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund.

83. The representative of YEMEN said that, in appreciation of the importance of United Nations development assistance, his Government was making a 14 per cent increase in its contributions. It pledged $US 13,110 to UNDP, $US 3,420 to UNCDF and $US 2,850 to UNFPA.

84. The representative of YUGOSLAVIA announced that, subject to parliamentary approval, Yugoslavia would contribute 107,934,836 new dinars, the equivalent of $US 284,326, to UNDP, ND 11.1 million to UNCDF, ND 370,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities, ND 18 million to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund and ND 555,000 to UNFPA. In addition, his Government would transfer directly to the account of the UNIDO/Yugoslav Centre for International Co-operation and Development of Agro-industry in Developing Countries the sum of ND 3.5 million to support its 1984 activities. His delegation would notify the Secretary-General of the outcome of the relevant parliamentary procedures regarding those contributions.

85. The representative of ZAIRE said that, in 1983, the UNDP Resident Representative in Zaire had received in Zairian currency the equivalent of $US 632,719 towards the operating costs of the UNDP office in Kinshasa and the administrative support costs of the field office. Because of its financial difficulties, Zaire could make only modest contributions: $US 1,000 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, $US 2,000 to UNICEF, $US 3,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, $US 500 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 500 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, $US 1,000 to UNFPA, $US 1,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, $US 2,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, $US 500 to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, $US 500 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $US 500 to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development Activities and $US 1,000 to UNITAR.

86. The representative of ZAMBIA expressed gratitude to all countries which contributed to United Nations development activities. In the past 10 years, The economic problems faced by Zambia had been aggravated by the low price of its exports on world markets, the high cost of its imports, and adverse weather conditions. Nevertheless, Zambia remained committed to multilateral economic co-operation and, subject to parliamentary approval, would be increasing by 25 per cent its 1984 contributions for United Nations development activities.

87. He was authorized to pledge the following amounts in convertible Zambian currency: 15,000 kwacha to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, K 15,000 to the Fund of UNEP, K 6,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, K 4,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, K 5,000 to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, K 8,000 to UNITAR, K 40,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for African Development Activities, K 5,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, K 5,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, K 5,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, K 23,000 to UNCDF, K 32,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, K 5,000 to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, K 55,000 to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development, K 7,500 to UNFPA, K 23,000 to UNICEF and K 255,000 to UNDP. For the time being, the amount of K 80,000 had been earmarked for local costs of the UNDP Office in Zambia. However, in response to a request by the UNDP Resident Representative, that amount might, subject to parliamentary approval, be increased to K 165,000.

88. He was also authorized to announce pledges of K 15,000 to the United Nations University, K 8,000 for activities undertaken pursuant to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, K 21,000 to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, K 6,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa and K 10,000 to UNDRO.

89. The representative of ZIMBABWE said that his Government attached great importance to operational activities for development, but was concerned about the erratic flow of resources for such activities. Like other developing countries which had been condemned to try to cope with externally-induced recession, Zimbabwe was undergoing severe economic hardship, and the difficulties were aggravated by the drought affecting southern Africa. Despite those problems, his Government would announce pledges that would be commensurate with the 1983 levels.

90. The representative of COLOMBIA said that, despite its economic difficulties, Colombia was pledging $US 794,500 to UNDP, $US 537,500 to UNDP's technical assistance programme, $US 440,000 to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, $US 5,700 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, $US 12,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements - Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, $US 32,000 to the United Nations Environment Programme, $US 11,000 to the World Food Programme, $US 385,000 to UNICEF, $US 18,000 to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and $US 50,000 for the maintenance of the United Nations Emergency Force.

91. The representative of DOMINICA said that his Government pledged 100,000 East Caribbean dollars to UNDP, $EC 5,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and $EC 2,700 to UNICEF.

92. The representative of the HOLY SEE said that the Holy See would contribute $US 1,000 to UNICEF's nutritional programmes and $US 2,000 to UNDP as a token of its support for programmes to benefit the poor all over the world. The Church sponsored missions, hospitals, relief programmes and schools in an effort to support the gift of life in all its material and spiritual dimensions.

93. The representative of PAKISTAN said that his country remained a firm believer in multilateral development activities. Despite severe financial constraints, a shortage of resources for its own development, and the fact that it harboured the largest concentration of refugees in the world, Pakistan was maintaining the level of its contributions. It was pledging 20 million Pakistan rupees to UNDP, PR 4.2 million to UNDP assessed programme costs, $US 5,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements - Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, PR 1 million to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, $US 10 million to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, $US 325,000 to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities, PR 100,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, PR 50,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, PR 10,000 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, PR 747,500 to UNICEF, and $US 1,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Social Development. His delegation would announce its contribution to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development during the consultations to be held during the current session and would like to see the system become operational as soon as possible.

94. Mrs. KAMAL (Secretary of the Conference) said that on 30 June 1984, the Secretary-General would publish a list of the pledges made at the conference; until that date, States wishing to do so could announce additional pledges.

95. The PRESIDENT announced that the representative of Tonga had pledged $US 10,000 to UNDP.

The meeting rose at 6.25 p.m.

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1983 UNITED NATIONS PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 3rd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 9 November 1983, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. OM PRADHAN (Bhutan)

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Closure of the Conference

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The meeting was called to order at 10.30 a.m.

STATEMENTS REGARDING PLEDGES (continued)

1. The representative of MADAGASCAR announced the following supplementary contributions by his Government: voluntary contributions to UNDP, 8,048,400 FMG; regular contributions, 90,060,000 FMG; contributions to local expenses, $71,250; to UNFPA, $5,000; to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, $2,000; and to a fund for technical assistance and co-operation, $2,500.

2. The representative of MOROCCO said that his country's contribution to UNDP, which had risen by 5 per cent, was 1,674,250 dirhams.

3. The representative of the CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC announced that his Government had already contributed 5 million CFA francs (the equivalent of $13,055) to UNDP and that, when the economic situation permitted, it would contribute to the other United Nations operational activities.

4. The representative of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN said that his delegation could not yet announce its pledges because they had not yet been approved by the Consultative Assembly of the Islamic Republic of Iran; as soon as that requirement was met, he would inform the Secretariat of the amounts.

ADOPTION AND SIGNATURE OF THE FINAL ACT (A/CONF.122/L.1)

5. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Conference wished to adopt its Final Act (A/CONF.112/L.1). He invited the participants to sign the Final Act.

6. Mr. GRANT (Executive Director of UNICEF) said that 87 Governments had announced pledges totalling $111 million to the general resources of UNICEF for 1984, which represented an increase of 2.7 per cent over 1983. In addition, $5 million had been pledged for specific purpose contributions.

7. A number of Governments had been unable to announce their pledges but it was estimated that nearly $100 million more were likely to be pledged in the months ahead, which would bring the total pledges to general resources for 1984 to some $207 million, or 4 to 5 per cent more than currently expected for 1983. To those figures should be added anticipated non-governmental contributions to the general resources of UNICEF from the National Committees, from the sale of greeting cards and from non-governmental organizations, which together would amount to some $40 million for 1984, a modest increase over 1983.

8. It should be pointed out that despite the difficult economic conditions, many developing countries had maintained their contributions to UNICEF and in 29 cases increased them. Five major donors had very substantially increased their contributions and he expressed his appreciation particularly to the Governments which had pledged significant increases - of 10 per cent or more - in their total contributions. Among industrialized countries, those were the Federal Republic of

Germany, Finland, France, Norway, Spain and Switzerland, and, among developing countries, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Democratic Yemen, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Uganda and Viet Nam. Other Governments, for various reasons, had not been in a position to make pledges. Among them was the United States, which had increased its contribution to the general resources of UNICEF to $42.5 million in 1983, and Japan, which had increased its contribution by 24 per cent in 1983. He also expressed appreciation to those Governments which had advanced the dates of their payments, a critically important factor for the liquidity of UNICEF.

9. He expressed deep appreciation to the countries participating in the Arab Gulf Programme for the United Nations Development Organizations which, as in the two previous years, had made a significant contribution to UNICEF. He also expressed his thanks to the Government of Italy, which had maintained the high level of support to UNICEF of 1982 and 1983.

10. Leading experts in the children's field agreed that the world was witnessing the early stages of what was potentially a revolution in children's survival and well-being, the result of a number of scientific and social advances in the last few years and, in large measure, of the efforts of many organizations within the United Nations system. And yet, at such a favourable point, UNICEF found itself with no significant real increase in its available resources in 1984 as compared with 1983. Furthermore, the world recession was causing many Governments to cut back expenditure on the social sectors. The experience of UNICEF, however, had shown that in spite of the recession poor countries could do much that was realistic and economically feasible; they could, in particular, restructure their health and educational systems, concentrating on low-cost and highly effective activities directed to the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable. That was an important aspect of the work of UNICEF.

11. He appealed to those Governments which had announced a reduction in the real value of their pledges to reconsider and make a supplementary contribution to the general resources of UNICEF for 1984. Despite serious economic difficulties at home, many other Governments had found it possible to maintain and even substantially increase their contributions. He himself repeated UNICEF's pledge to make the most of the resources pledged by sharpening the efficiency of its work and maximizing the effectiveness of its programmes.

12. Mr. SALAS (Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities) said that 71 Governments had announced pledges to UNFPA for 1984 amounting to about $70 million.

13. He especially appreciated the pledges that represented an increase of 10 per cent or more over the previous year. Adding the pledges made and the pledges anticipated from those traditional donors to UNFPA which had not yet been in a position to announce them officially, the total estimated income for the Fund for 1984 would amount to approximately $134 million, which fell short of covering the $138.2 million set by the Governing Council for UNFPA.

(Mr. Salas)

14. It was essential for countries to pay their contributions as early as possible, in order to ensure regular and systematic programming and payment.

15. It should be noted that 1984 would be an especially important year for UNFPA, since in August the International Conference on Population was to be held in Mexico, with the primary objective of evaluating the efforts of developing countries in the field of population. In that connection, he thanked two countries - Syria and Belgium - which had announced 1984 pledges to that Conference and he was pleased to report that Nigeria had contributed $100,000 for the same purpose.

16. Important advances in the field of population had begun to be made, as reflected in the rate of growth of the world's population, which had been 1.7 per cent instead of the 2 per cent anticipated, with an expected drop to 1.5 per cent in the year 2000.

17. Mr. ABDEL-MEGHID (Director, Liaison Office of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)) said that 61 countries had pledged over $13 million to the development fund, an increase of 20 per over the previous year; he hoped that the figure would be even higher when pledges from countries which had not yet announced them were made known. It was hoped that, with the increase in contributions, the capacity of the Fund would be strengthened as a source of financing for many programmes of specialized technical co-operation in the field of industrialization which required support from UNIDO.

18. Mr. DI GENNARO (United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC)) said that the pledges made at the Conference, which represented only part of the financial resources provided by member countries and other donors to UNFDAC, were an encouraging indicator. So far, pledges had been made of general contributions amounting to $2,785,000 and special purpose contributions of $43,666,000, which would be used over a period of five years. The figures mentioned, and in particular the special purpose contributions, were unprecedented and would enable the Fund to implement Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/14 in the Andean subregion where a broad programme of coca control could be initiated.

19. UNFDAC was now in a position to consider new and more effective activities in regions of the world where the lack of resources and problems of drug abuse were closely linked. It was hoped that the firm commitment and generous contributions of some countries would encourage many other countries to consider the great value of a multilateral approach in that particular sphere of international assistance.

20. Mr. DOO KINGUE (Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)) expressed appreciation to Afghanistan, Burundi, Congo, Spain and Zambia for having contributed to UNITAR for the first time; he also expressed appreciation for the considerable increases in contributions from China, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy and Norway.

(Mr. Doo Kinqua)

21. In his recent statement to the Second Committee of the General Assembly, he had said that the current system of financing UNITAR, based on voluntary contributions, should be given another chance before proposals were made to change it. However, on the basis of the contributions announced during the Conference, it seemed that the appeal made for more member States to contribute more generously to UNITAR had not really been understood.

22. Although 34 member States had made pledges in 1983 compared with 30 in the previous year, the proportion in relation to the 158 States Members of the United Nations was still too small. In all, the pledges made would exceed those of the previous year by one third, since total contributions amounted to $1,044,760.

23. The contributions announced constituted a third of the objective formulated by the Board of Trustees of UNITAR as the minimum budget for 1984 without which the Institute would not be able to carry out its activities in a responsible manner. He therefore hoped that the countries that had not been able to announce their voluntary contributions for 1984, including the United States which had provided $422,000 for the UNITAR budget for 1983, would do so before the Board of Trustees approved the budget for 1984 in March of that year. Otherwise there would be a significant reduction in the Institute's resources which would force UNITAR, against its wishes, to recommend to the General Assembly formulas for financing which it had so far rejected.

24. Mr. MORSE (Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme) said that for the fourth consecutive year the total resources pledged to UNDP had fallen below the level of voluntary contributions for 1980. Despite the efforts made by UNDP and the indications of economic recovery among a number of donor countries, the results in terms of US dollars were less than encouraging. On the basis of the pledges announced for 1984 by 95 countries and three territories of the 119 countries and territories represented at the Conference, and of estimates of the contributions of Governments which had not yet made pledges, voluntary contributions to UNDP in 1984 would amount to $681.1 million, which represented an increase of about 1 per cent compared with 1983. However, in the national currencies in which most contributions were pledged, the results were more encouraging. A considerable number of countries had responded positively to the recommendation made by the UNDP Governing Council in decision 83/5 that all Governments should try to maintain the real value of their contributions as a minimum objective. It should be noted that the adverse effect of variations in exchange rates on the real value of contributions to UNDP was partly offset by the relative increase in the purchasing power of assistance provided by UNDP, which was calculated on the basis of convertible dollars in local currency.

25. Only 24 countries had met or exceeded, in US dollars, the target of a 14 per cent annual increase in their contributions which had been established by the UNDP Governing Council. Moreover, four donor coutries (Finland, France, Italy and Spain, whose increase of 86 per cent deserved special recognition) and 28 developing coutries had met or exceeded that objective in national currency. He also stressed the generous contributions made by Denmark in recent years and

(Mr. Morse)

expressed appreciation for the great efforts made by many developing countries to increase their contributions even though they had not been able to achieve the growth target. It was estimated that of the 18 major donors whose contributions accounted for approximately 90 per cent of total programme resources, 10 had so far met the minimum recommendation to maintain the level of their contributions in real terms. If the other donor countries did not follow suit, the Governing Council would have to face some very difficult decisions at its mid-cycle review in 1984.

26. He was convinced that, although some donors had not met the minimum recommendation, the decisions of the Council had produced positive results at the Conference. He noted once again that the central resources of UNDP provided an essential operational base from which the 10 special purpose development funds and activities and the entire range of operational activities of the United Nations system were assisted, and expressed the hope that the signs of economic recovery in many developed countries and the stabilization of exchange rates would mean extended recovery for UNDP's resource base. Moreover, no real correlation could be established between the pledges made or estimated for UNDP in 1984 and the process of the economic recovery of the donor countries. For example, Finland, France, Italy and Spain, which were still suffering from the effects of the economic crisis, had increased their contributions in real terms considerably more than other countries whose economies were in a better situation.

27. He urged the Governments which, because of their budgetary procedures, had not yet had sufficient time to respond to the recommendation made in decision 83/5 of the Governing Council, to respond urgently to that recommendation within the financial year or in any manner envisaged in that decision to enable them to provide funds for the Programme's resource base.

28. Since the previous meeting of the Governing Council in June, UNDP had issued a compendium of some 440 projects in need of co-financing in the amount of almost $500 million spread among 70 developing countries and territories and including 11 regional projects. Six donor countries had already responded to the need for additional financing for various of those projects. He urged other Governments to address the urgent and unfulfilled needs of developing countries and to transfer to UNDP the unspent resources from their bilateral assistance programmes in order to strengthen UNDP's central resource base, as called for in decision 83/5.

29. In the mid-cycle review of UNDP-supported technical co-operation scheduled for June, 1984, the indicative planning figures for many countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa would have to undergo far-reaching changes since they had been provisionally allocated in 1980 for the 1982-1986 period. Recession, indebtedness, declining living standards, drought and other problems affecting those countries pointed to the need for a rational, responsive and massive effort by the international community, which only systematic, forward-planned development endeavours such as UNDP could provide.

(Mr. Morse)

30. Although those changing circumstances had added to the need for higher funding levels, other changes had worked in favour of UNDP. For example, since 1980, UNDP had lost almost $730 million in the conversion into United States dollars of contributions made in national currencies. The picture was improving, however, as a result of gains for some donor country currencies and it was hoped that that trend would be maintained. On the basis of pledges made for 1984, UNDP would continue its programming level at 55 per cent. However, unless an increase of at least 7.5 per cent was attained for 1985 and 1986, that level could not be maintained.

31. The funds administered by UNDP were also facing serious resource constraints. The Special Measures Fund for Least Developed Countries had received from the Conference pledges of $14.5 million compared to $13.7 million in 1983. In view of the special responsibilities of that Fund under the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, and the positive attitude of some donor countries, it was hoped that further contributions would be forthcoming. In the case of the United Nations Capital Development Fund, contributions for 1984 amounted to $18.9 million, compared to $24.3 million in 1983; the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration had received pledges of $113,000, compared to $2.1 million from six countries for 1983; the Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities had received pledges in the amount of $645,000, compared to $600,000 in 1983; the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers programme, $916,000 for 1984, compared to $1 million in 1983; the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, $50,000, compared to $63,000 in 1983; the UNDP-Energy Account, $500,000 for 1984, compared to $1.3 million in 1983; contributions to the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development amounted to $241,000. It was hoped that Governments would give special consideration to the enormous needs and potential of that relatively new component of the United Nations development system. Those Funds all had worthy purposes, but were beset by the same resource constraints as UNDP.

32. The results of the last session of the UNDP Governing Council had signalled a new beginning for UNDP. After extended deliberations concerning the recommendations of the Intersessional Committee of the Whole, the Council had provided UNDP with new tools for greater effectiveness and for obtaining new resources for its operational responsibilities. There could be no real change, however, without the participation of all countries. The Pledging Conference had been the first official test of that participation and he hoped that support would increase in the future, to achieve the resource base necessary for the effective performance of UNDP's activities.

33. Mrs. PASTIZZI-FERENIC (United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women) said the Institute had received pledges of $511,678 from 18 countries. She thanked those countries which had contributed generously as well as those which had made modest contributions as a token of their support. Research and training were fundamental to the achievement of development objectives and the Institute would continue working towards the goal of the full integration of women into the development process.

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34. Mrs. SNYDER (Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women) said that the Fund paid particular attention to an invisible labour force: the rural and poor urban women who were major contributors to the economic life of their countries. She thanked the six new contributors, all of them developing countries (Afghanistan, Algeria, Guinea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Zaire and Zambia) for their support, as well as the other donors. Thirty-five countries had pledged a total of $1.7 million, a 42 per cent increase over the previous year. A review of the work of the Fund was under way and a complete register of the governmental and non-governmental activities supported by the Fund, would be ready by mid-1984. She hoped that that review would strengthen the confidence already manifested by donors and lead to an increase in the resources offered to the Fund in the future.

35. Mr. OKALI (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)) thanked the 33 Governments which had pledged a total of $1.2 million, especially those which had continuously supported the Centre, and those which had increased their contributions for 1983. He hoped that former donors which had not yet announced their pledges would do so in the near future. The Centre was a small organization in terms of the resources which it administered. However, it had a broad mandate and in its five years of existence, it had used its funds prudently and had achieved a good cost/effectiveness ratio.

36. The CHAIRMAN reported on the pledges not yet announced by the respective organizations; United Nations Environment Programme, $3,018,715; United Nations Trust Fund for the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, $21,544; Trust Fund for the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, $427,170; United Nations Trust Fund for Social Defence, $441,494; United Nations Trust Fund for African Development Activities, $31,351; United Nations Trust Fund for the World Assembly on Aging, $21,673; United Nations Trust Fund for the International Year of Disabled Persons, $20,755.

37. Since, for different reasons, many delegations had not yet been able to announce their pledges, it was not possible to evaluate the results of the Conference. He urged all potential donors to announce their pledges as soon as possible and those who had already announced theirs, to make their remittances as early as possible in order to facilitate proper planning and resource management.

38. The CHAIRMAN declared closed the 1983 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

The meeting rose at 12.40 p.m.